

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 1155 Challenger/Columbia Specialty License Plate  
**SPONSOR(S):** Poppell  
**TIED BILLS:** **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1698

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<b>REFERENCE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>ANALYST</b>	<b>STAFF DIRECTOR</b>
1) <u>Transportation</u>	<u>21 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Garner</u>	<u>Miller</u>
2) <u>Finance &amp; Tax</u>	<u>22 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Levin</u>	<u>Diez-Arguelles</u>
3) _____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

HB 1155 changes the name of the Challenger license plate to the Challenger/Columbia license plate, specifies that, in addition to the seven astronauts who died on the Challenger shuttle, the plate also commemorates the seven astronauts who died on the Columbia shuttle, and directs the department to develop the plate to reflect this change.

The bill does not change the distribution of annual use fees.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2003.

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. DOES THE BILL:

- |                                      |                              |                             |   |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government?                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes?                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom?        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families?                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

##### Present Situation

The Florida Legislature created the first specialty license plate in 1986 memorializing the seven astronauts who died when the space shuttle Challenger exploded after lift-off. A motor vehicle owner can purchase the specialty plate in place of the regular Florida license plate for an annual use fee of \$25 that must be paid in addition to license taxes and fees.

Annual use fees collected from sales of the Challenger license plate are distributed to the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc., to support the operations of the Center for Space Education and the Education Technology Institute. Proceeds are also distributed to the Technological Research and Development Authority created by s. 2, ch. 87-455, L.O.F., for the purpose of funding space-related research grants, the Teacher/Quest Scholarship Program under s. 1009.61, F.S., as approved by the Florida Department of Education, and space-related economic development programs.

In 2002 the Challenger license plate was the seventh best selling specialty license plate with 55,016 plates sold and renewed. The sales and renewals generated \$1,382,700 in annual use fee revenues. However, according to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, between 1996 and 2001, Challenger plate issuances and renewals have declined 42 percent.

##### Effect of Proposed Changes

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The bill takes effect July 1, 2003.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

**Section 1.** Amends s. 320.08056, F.S., to change the name of the Challenger license plate to the Challenger/Columbia license plate.

**Section 2.** Amends s. 320.08058, F.S., to change the name of the Challenger license plate to the Challenger/Columbia license plate.

**Section 3.** Provides an effective date of July 1, 2003.

## **II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

See FISCAL COMMENTS section below.

### **B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

### **C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:**

None.

### **D. FISCAL COMMENTS:**

The bill is expected to have an insignificant fiscal impact on the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Implementation of the bill's provisions will require minor programming to the Motor Vehicle License Software System.

Section 320.08056 (9), F.S., does not permit the redesign of a specialty license plate unless the inventory is depleted or the organization that requested the plate purchases the remaining inventory of specialty license plates from the Department at cost. The Department estimates that there are 8800 tags in the county tag collectors' offices and an additional 1500 at the Department of Corrections awaiting the next production of the license plate. It will cost approximately \$26,000 if the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Inc. decides to purchase the remaining stock of the existing license plate.

## **III. COMMENTS**

### **A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:**

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

None.

2. Other:

None.

### **B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

HB 1155 does not require any grant or exercise of rule-making authority to implement its provisions.

### **C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:**

#### IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES